Attorney Docket No. 15162703230

OIPE JC177 APR 21 2003 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#9 Slange 4-28-03

In re

U.S. application:	Kaori KOJIMA and Hitoshi HAGIMORI
For:	IMAGING LENS DEVICE
U.S. Serial No.:	09/878,475
Confirmation No.:	1997
Filed:	June 11, 2001
Group Art Unit:	2873
Examiner:	Timothy J. Thompson

Assistant Commissioner
For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

April 14, 2003
Date of Deposit

Kathy E. Needleman
Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative

Signature

April 14, 2003
Date of Signature

Dear Sir:

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants wish to bring the following items to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of each document is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the presentation of this material in any way reflects its relative pertinence. The references cited below are not intended to constitute an admission of any kind. Specifically, this presentation is not an admission that the items listed below are properly citable against the above-identified application.

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Submitted herewith is a copy of the Notification of Reasons for Refusal (dated October 15, 2002) and a copy of the Decision of Refusal (dated February 4, 2003) for counterpart Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-368340. The Notification of Reasons for Refusal cites the following references:

(1) Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. (A) 2000-35533 (SONY CORP), published February 2, 2000;

(2) Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. (A) H8-334684 (FUJI PHOTO OPTICAL CO., LTD.), published December 17, 1996; and

Applicants wish to bring the following document to the attention of the Examiner:

(3) Okajima, U.S. Patent No. 6,181,477 B1, issued January 30, 2001.

Document (3) is a US counterpart of Document (1).

As this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the references being first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office for a counterpart foreign patent application, no fee is incurred. If it should be determined that a fee is required, please charge any required fee (other than the issue fee) during the pendency of this application to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Respectfully submitted,

By: Kathy Needleman

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